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THE OLD TRAP DOOR.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.
BY MARK MEREDITH.

I recollect it passing well,
On O. P. side it stood,
And in the pantomime superb
It did a heap of good;
For, out of it the demons sprang
With fiendish hardihood.
Red gnomes and blue would sink from sight
Down its capacious jaw,
And how I wondered as a boy
When sights like these I saw;
I used to think of Jonah and
The whale's distended maw!

What red fire shone from out its depths!
And then what tricks we played;
The aspirant we'd lead along
Till over it he strayed,
When Presto! with a curdling yell
He took the downward grade!

That old trap door I can't forget—
Twould be so useful now;

For instance, you are buttonholed,
The bore comes, with a bow,

And talks until a frown appears
Upon your placid brow.

You gently lead him to the place
Where you despatch the trap;
You signal with your dexter foot
By giving just a tap,

When, lo! the bore goes downward

And the trap door gives a snap!

The editor sits at his desk,
The office cat acean;

Then enters the Spring poet who

Found out the coast was clear;

He mentions with a genial smile:

"I have a poem here."

The editor affects to read,

And says: "Just step this way,"

The poet is delighted, and

The summons doth obey;

Again the trap! The bard of Spring

Departeth from the day!

In fact, the more I think of it,
It strikes me more and more,

Twould totally obliterate

The everlasting bore;

And that is why I've written of

The ancient stage trap door!

FOR CUBA.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.
BY MARIE MADISON
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"I love you and will be your wife, John Masterson, but you must win me. You must prove that you love me well enough to die for me, if need be by fighting for my country, for Cuba."

The soft, dark eyes of the girl looked away over the green fields, kissed by the dying sunlight, to the faraway ocean that rolled between her and that beloved home of her childhood.

Zoila Santez was the only daughter of a rich Cuban fruit merchant, whose hospitable home on Long Island was the headquarters of Cuban patriots and American sympathizers.

Among the latter was John Masterson, a young man of good old New York stock, rich, handsome, dignified and serious. He went to Senior Santez's house in sympathy with the Cuban cause—he left it in love with Zoila.

Picture to yourself this Cuban American girl; not beautiful, but possessing a rare charm of manner that made her irresistible. The firm, square chin, a counterpart of her father's, was too masculine to be called lovely, but it spoke volumes for the courage and constancy of the woman. The full lips closed a little too tightly to be called tender. They could speak a command more readily than a word of love. The smooth olive brow suggested thought and high purpose, while the straight, aquiline nose formed an angle just a little too defiant to bring great loveliness to the face of its possessor. But in the soft, dark eyes, the most beautiful feature of her face, all the attributes lacking in her other features predominated. Love, womanliness, tenderness, sympathy and modesty looked forth from them like sweet faces of gentle nuns from cloister windows. It was her eyes that first won Jack Masterson's love; it was her courage and loyalty that retained it.

When she declared her love for him, in answer to his impassioned appeal to her, it was with the frank courage that characterizes the sincere woman.

The eager suitor caught her hand in his, and, pressing the rosy tipped fingers to his lips, replied:

"I am ready to prove anything for you, Zoila. Even at the cost of my life, if need be. You cannot ask me too much in return for this little hand. I will fight for Cuba for your sake—die for her."

"Then go to my father. I know he will give his consent. He will do anything that will bring me happiness."

"And it will really make you happy to be my wife, Zoila? You are sure you love me well enough to trust your life with me? It is no passing fancy, Zoila?"

"To such women as I there are no passing fancies, Jack," she replied. "I love no one but you—I have never loved another. I will always love you. I ask you to fight for Cuba because I believe my loyalty to my country, and yours to me, would die faithful to you. No other shall ever call me his wife. Go now to my father. Tell him what I have said. He will not say 'no.'"

In spite of her encouraging words Zoila paced, with something of impatience, up and down the veranda without her father's study, listening to the voices of Senior Santez and her suitor as they spoke in low tones within. So still was the evening that she could almost distinguish their words, and, presently, as a soft breath of wind opened the door for an inch or two, she distinctly heard Jack say:

"But what can there be to stand between us? I love her—love overcomes all obstacles."

Unconscious that she was playing the part of an

eavesdropper, in her anxiety to hear her father's argument, Zoila paused and listened.

"It may not prove such," said the voice of Senior Santez. "To an honorable man, such as I believe you to be, it will make no difference. Therefore, I feel no hesitancy in telling you the unhappy history of her mother."

Her mother! Zoila gave a slight gasp and clutched the lace covering above her bosom nervously as she drew slightly nearer to the door.

"Zoila believes her dead," went on her father's voice. "Whether she is or not, I cannot say. I hope so. She was faithless to me. I trusted her as no man ever trusted woman before. I was blind—utterly blind. I would not believe rumors I heard of her. I

looked into her own was that of a hypocrite. Evil, malignant and cruel, but wearing a mask of refinement and good nature, through which anyone with the power of ordinary discernment could read a nature given entirely to self indulgence and reckless passion. It was Juan Guadaro.

Associated as he was with her father's story, the sight of him mocking, smiling countenance at that moment completely unnerved the girl. For the first time in her life she permitted her revulsion for him to show itself, as she retreated with a cry of abhorrence and disgust to the farther end of the veranda, whence he quickly followed her.

Senior Guadaro, the friend who had urged her father to disbelieve the story of his wife, who had

you to be my wife. You may look astonished. I never made such an offer to a woman before. And I will make you happy, Zoila. I will worship you. I will lavish fortunes upon you—only be my wife."

In spite of herself Zoila burst into a scornful laugh. Then, with anger flashing in her eyes, she turned upon the Spaniard.

"Your offer is an insult," she exclaimed. "I have never encouraged you to speak thus to me. Never repeat it, I pray you, if you value my father's friendship. I could not love you—you merely ask me to sell myself!" and with that she turned away and left the enraged man to recover from her rebuff as best he might.

True to his promise, when the Red Wing sailed

"Zoila is here—in Cuba."

"Here? No—no!"

"It is true. After you left I noticed my child changed daily, more and more. She became more rose, then sudden flashes of patriotism would burst from her lips and she would declare her intention of coming here to help in the Cuban cause. One day I found her missing. A search revealed the fact that she had taken passage for Havana. What she is doing there I cannot ascertain. I followed as soon as possible, enlisting in the Cuban cause, since I knew I was not safe among the Spaniards, as my loyalty to Cuba is well known to the Captain General and his officers. I am positive my departure from the United States and my arrival in Cuba were known to them. I have received intelligence since coming here which leads me to believe Zoila is employed in some capacity among the Spanish authorities where she can act as a spy, for messages have been received from her that can only have been obtained from very high authority. I want you to go to Havana at once. I have come armed with passports and testimonials that will enable you to enter the city and represent yourself as an American newspaper correspondent. Find Zoila, for the love of God, and return with her to America."

Jack listened to the recital of the excited Cuban with trembling and apprehension. The woman he loved was in greater danger at that moment than he himself. There seemed no horse swift enough to bear him to Havana, but at last the journey was accomplished and he found himself ushered into the presence of the Spanish authorities to present his testimonials before going in search of Zoila. His heart leapt with joy when he found his passport and credentials were not questioned, and he was free to go forth in search of some clue.

It was a fruitless search. A week passed and no clue had rewarded his efforts. The first few days were without adventure, but as time passed a strange feeling oppressed him—a feeling of danger, as though some treacherous foe were lurking near. At last the certainty forced itself upon him that he was being followed. By whom he could not tell. Sometimes it was a Spanish guard, sometimes an old woman, sometimes a ragged boy, but, true it was, his footsteps were being dogged wherever he went, and every word he spoke was being reported to the Spanish authorities.

He made fruitless endeavors to escape his pursuers. Once or twice he believed they had lost his trail, but they reappeared in most unexpected places.

At last, one afternoon, he found himself in a quiet portion of the town which looked so peaceful and beautiful in the serenity that one could scarcely believe war oppressed the country. Directly before him was a handsome church and next to it a vine clad convent, from within which the soft tones of an organ and the voices of women singing were heard. Jack felt a sense of security come over him, and sat down on the church steps to rest. But a few moments had passed, however, when he saw two guards approaching from the direction from which he had come. He tried to reassure himself and appear unconcerned by their presence. Indeed, he seemed to be furthest from their thoughts, for they gave no heed to him until they stood directly before him, when, ere he could utter a protest or make an outcry, he was seized and in iron, standing bareheaded between the two men, while one of them read, in Spanish, a warrant for his arrest.

He turned to call the attention of the guard to his hat, which lay on the ground behind him, when a slight cry caused him to look toward the convent. There, in a lower window, like a virgin framed in flowering vines, stood Zoila, in the midst of the rich foliage, watching him with strained eyes and pallid cheek.

He made no sign of recognition, fearing to direct the suspicion of the guards toward her. He was even happy in his terrible extremity, now that he knew she was alive and apparently safe in this religious retreat. His heart throbbed with joy at this thought as he took a last look at her anxious face and was hurried away to prison, to await trial, perhaps death.

Zoila turned away from the window where she had stood watching the arrest of her lover, sick at heart. Had she acted on the impulse of the moment she would have gone directly to the Captain General and pleaded for his release, but a calmer thought told her this would be madness, and only make certain the death which was now but a possibility.

As she was about to leave the room, which was used as a public parlor, she started back with a cry of surprise, for, at that moment, Senior Guadaro entered, smiling with similes triumph, and detained her by his outstretched hand.

"So," he said, "I have found you, my pretty run away. Did you fly from me, or did you follow your American lover, whom we have just seen dragged away to prison?"

"Why have you come here?" asked Zoila, regaining her composure.

"To rescue you from peril," he answered. "To take you back to America, where you will be safe—back to your father's arms."

"You have no right to interfere with me. I came here to—"

"To spy upon the Spanish government. You are clever. You know where to hear State secrets. But I am clever also. I have been watching you and Jack Masterson as well. It was I who caused his arrest but a moment ago. So, you found a haven of safety in this convent; these people took you in because they thought you were a loyal Spanish girl in need of help and succor; you repay them by learning the plans of the Spanish army, which are to a great extent formed within these walls—ah, you see I am as wise as you—and then you betray them to the Cubans. In other words, you are a spy."

"Well?"

"And spies are executed here without a trial."

"Yes?"

"And I cannot return to tell your father that I left you dead—dishonored—"

"Dishonored?"

"As a spy."

"Glorified, it is for Cuba."

"Ah, then you confess?"

"Confess?" Zoila turned a shade paler. She had allowed her enthusiasm to betray her. "Well, and



attributed any cause to her strange actions but that of disloyalty. At last she went away with her lover, and for a week I was in a state bordering on madness. Then she returned, begged me on her knees to take her back, protesting her innocence, vowing she was the victim of a plot. I would not listen to her. My eyes were open at last. Had it not been for my friend, Senior Guadaro, I should have killed her. Ah, you perhaps wonder at my friendship for him, even though we differ as to the Spanish government of Cuba, but I owe much to him. He urged me to leave her to her fate. To him I owe the fact that I am not a murderer. Now you know all. If you still wish Zoila to be your wife you have my consent—but keep this from her. Never permit her to know the story of her mother's shame."

"It cannot in any way influence my love for her," said Masterson. "Indeed, I shall treasure her all the more, now that I know there is something to her from her, if it is only a shadow from the past."

"More to be dreaded than an armed foe of today."

"It shall never approach her. Give her into my keeping, and I will stand between her and all the world. I have promised to fight for Cuba, and I shall keep my word. When the Red Wing sails tomorrow with arms and men I shall go with her. If I return all I ask is Zoila."

"Then she is yours. Do as she asked you—go with my blessing and our prayers. When you return Zoila shall be your wife."

It seemed to the listening girl without as though the sun had suddenly set and left her life in darkness. The mother, whose memory she had ever cherished, whom she had always likened to a holy angel guarding her young life, was living—living a life of shame—an outcast from her husband's home.

With a frantic gesture of despair she turned away to find herself face to face with one who had been watching her as intently as she had been listening to the story of her mother's life. The face that

prevented him from becoming a murderer, as he but a moment ago had declared, seemed to Zoila not the man to spare a woman pain or sorrow, or to plead for her life. Zoila had never been able to comprehend her father's friendship for this man, other than that they had spent their youth together and had shared all views alike except upon the Cuban question. Senior Guadaro was strongly in favor of the Spanish rule, whilst Senior Santez was a Cuban and a patriot to the heart's core.

As he again approached her Zoila tried to appear composed.

With a smile he meant to be pleasant, Senior Guadaro said:

"Now what sport are you trying to make of me, Señorita? You must respect my gray hairs better than to run away when I want to speak to you."

"Pardon me," replied Zoila, "I did not mean to offend. I—I am not well. Please excuse me."

"Not well; you are not, indeed. I never saw you so pale before; I am concerned. You must not remain out of doors after the sun has set. See, the day is failing. Let me take you inside, Zoila."

Her proud head regained its usual height as she drew back and exclaimed:

"You have no right to call me Zoila, Señor."

"No right? am I not an old friend—why, I knew your father before you were born. I was his best friend."

"I know. You prevented him from killing my mother. You urged him not to listen to her story—you made her an outcast when she may have been an innocent woman—you—"

"Has your father told you this?"

"Jack Masterson? What business is it of his?"

"That is their affair."

"Don't go, Zoila. No, don't be offended. Yes, I am your best friend, if you will only believe me. Yes, I am more than your friend, for I love you—I want

slowly down the New York Harbor, freighted with men and ammunition for the fighting Cubans. John Masterson's pale face looked longingly back toward his native land, where the woman he loved was to wait and pray for his return.

In due time the men and cargo were safely landed on Cuban soil, and Jack found himself in the ranks of war. It was impossible to receive mail in the Cuban camps, but now and then a letter came from Zoila through the hands of some captain of a ship bringing supplies; but there came a time when he waited long and in vain, for no letters came. What doubts rent his heart he alone knew. "Was she false? No, anything but that. A thousand excuses—a thousand doubts and fears presented themselves, but he found no solace in them, and, day by day, he became paler and more dejected, though his arm was ever ready to strike for the cause of the woman he still trusted—still loved.

An explanation was to come to him in a way he little expected. As he stood guard one dark, moonless night the sound of approaching footsteps aroused him from his lethargy and thoughts of Zoila. Looking up at the tall figure of a uniformed man who approached him he thought he discerned something familiar in the majestic carriage and poise of the head, upon which the white hair was

World Players

— Notes from Ion Carroll's Players: We are back in Pennsylvania, after playing five weeks in West Virginia. Business in West Virginia was not up to the standard, but Pennsylvania is holding up excellently, in spite of the warm weather. Jack and Madeline Goodwin closed at Uniontown, Pa. Edward Shaw and May Arthur join at Belle Vernon, Pa. Trixie Lewis and the leading lady, Clair Tuttle, are receiving flattering notices everywhere for their clever work.

— John Lee was to open at Drury Lane Theatre, London, Eng., May 13, in "Jo," with Alma Stainer as Lady Godiva.

— Bobbie Gaynor's stay in the London, Eng., music halls was but a brief week.

— Augustus Cooke has been re-engaged for the role of Napoleon, in "Madame Sans Gene," for next season.

— Bart Wallace has been engaged for "On Broadway" for next season.

— Mae E. Anderson, of the Two Andersons, Mae and Allie, has signed with Jules Wainers' "Side Tracked" Co. for the season of 1887.

— A compensation nonreceipt of salaries comes from the Flora Stamford Co., and it is stated that an attachment was served at Clearfield, Pa., against the receipts.

— Florence Corbin is touring through Maine in her own pieces, "The Midnight Curse," "The Child of the Forest" and "The Soldier's Honor," under the management of T. Wilson Rennie.

— Fred Wickett opened with Keith's "U. T. C." Co. May 6, at Coshocton, O.

— Harry Hoffman has signed with "A Tammany Tiger."

— E. C. Burroughs was made a K. of P. recently, at Pigeon Cove, Mass. He has signed for next season with the Southerners' Co.

— Ellen Vockey was called from Chicago, Ill., to Washington, D. C., in consequence of the sudden death of her father in that city.

— American Miserouter, premier of "Tompkins in the Woods," has signed for Havre May 9. She returns in July, and is engaged with the same company next season.

— The Robinson Opera House, in Cincinnati, O., will hereafter be under the direction of Brady & Stair, they having leased the same for a term of years. They will conduct it as a family theatre at ten, fifteen, twenty-five and fifty cent prices, with five matinees a week.

— Notes from the Goodwin Comedy Co.: Our Summer tour opened at Lawrenceville, Pa., May 9. Robert Jack, general manager and manager; Fred Rashland, Thomas Everett, C. V. Thomas; Walter Van Curen, G. A. Root, Madeline Goodwin, Anita Leslie and Baby Ethel. Our repertory consists of "Pygmalion and Galatea," "Ingoomar," "Faust and Marguerite," "East Lynne," "A Country Girl" and "Lady Audley's Secret."

— Mathew Byrne has joined the Byrne Bros.' "Bells" Co. for the remainder of the season.

— "The Actors' Society of America" is the title of a new association which is about to be formed in the city. Articles of incorporation have been prepared, and will be filed with the Secretary of State, at Albany, this week. A number of prominent professionals are the prime movers in the organization of the new society, the object of which is to "promote and improve the actor's calling by mutual benefit, dramatic, artistic, economic and social means, within the United States and contiguous countries."

— "The Leading Lady," a farce comedy, by Michael Morton, was given its first production May 11, at the Park City Theatre, Bridgeport, Ct.

— "The Leading Lady" begins an action for divorce from Charles H. Billingham. The action is brought in Omaha, Neb.

— "Wham," a comic opera, in three acts, libretto by J. M. Morrison, music by D. K. Stevens, was produced, for the first time on any stage, May 5, at the Tacoma (Wash.) Theatre.

— "John and Priscilla," a new comic opera, by Harry G. Sommers and H. H. Thiele, received its first production May 11, at McVicker's Theatre, Chicago.

— Notes from the Pringle-May Co.: Edna May has purchased Mr. Pringle's interest in the company, and hereafter the company will be known as the Edna May Co.

— Wm. C. Andrews closed his first starring tour of thirty-five weeks in Fred Marsden's comedy, "My Wife's Friend," at Cleveland, O., May 16, with flattering results, he informs us.

— Blanche Morgan closed season of twenty weeks with the D. W. Woodward Co., May 9, at the Kinx Theatre, Kansas City, Mo. While playing there, she claims, her trunk was broken open and quite a number of valuables taken.

— Chas. Baguley has been engaged by the Whiteman Opera Co. (Rob Roy) to play the title role for the remainder of the season.

— Notes from Robert Sherman's Co.: Geo. Bell was called home, and consequently left the company. Karl B. Steers joins in his place. We are doing good business, and expect to remain out all summer working directly to the Black Hills.

— We have received from Shepard Bros. & Co., general show printers, Toronto, Canada, a very handy date book, serviceable for two years from this date.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

— Washington.—With only three houses regularly open last week the bottom seemed to have dropped out of theatrical amusement at the National, Colonial, "Midnight Bell," at Tapley's National, with Dickey and Laura, and in the leading roles, had fair business, which was somewhat augmented on the closing night, when silver souvenirs were given to each lady holding a card. It is to be conjectured the seven days of the week begin a two weeks' engagement of the Delta Fox Opera Co. "Fleur de Lis" May 11-16. "The Little Trotter" in "Ravely's Academy" of Music, May 17-23.

— "Aladdin's Lamp" did not have a very promising week. Miss Evans was strongly supported, especially by Miss Saute, whose delineation of the role of Clyde Harrod, a tempestuous young man, in "A Lamp in the Dark" was a revelation.

— The BAXUM & BAILEY Show occupies the circus lot, corner of Third and P Streets, N. W., for two days this week, May 11-12.

— The baseball returns in detail given by the use of marionettes on the stage of Kerman's Lyceum every afternoon which the Washington Club plays a game is getting to be an institution here. Every detail of the game is given simultaneously with the action of the play, the audience sees the match and the game, and with a hot wave in progress Manager Fair is restive, easy to the future prospects of the place. For this week Fanny Wentworth has been re-engaged, as she has also James George Le Roy, soprano. Other on the bill are: Eddie Foy, Jr., and Eddie May, May 11-15.

— The Harmons, Fanny Reynolds, three Delmarines, and Eddie Foy, Jr., and Eddie May, May 16-20.

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World Players

In future *THE CLIPPER* forms will go to press at an earlier hour. Increased pressure upon our columns, and a decided increase in circulation, compel this change, and we earnestly request that all copy shall reach us in good season. All matter should be in this office on Monday, so far as possible. The outside forms close on Monday at 5 P. M., the inside forms on Tuesday at 2 P. M.

— Notes from Wieland's Comedians: Parsons & Ellis have purchased from Charles O. Willard his interest in Willard's Comedians. Mr. Willard will remain with the company, which will be under sole management, and will number fifteen people, including a band of nine and orchestra of five. The bills presented will be produced by permission of the authors and managers.

The Swedish American Comedians and Comedy Co., G. Montalieu and P. H. Smith, proprietors, is playing in Northern Minnesota to reported good business.

Ward and Vokes close a forty weeks' season at Newark, N. J., May 14, and can show, we are informed, a good balance on the right side.

RUTS DE SHON returns from the stage at the close of the Winter season to the City Sports Co., of which she is a member.

FRANK WHITMAN, trick violin soloist, opened May 11 at Keith's Theatre, Boston, Mass., for one week.

JAMES CROSBY has joined the Nashville Students Co.

SCANLON AND PERRY have closed with the Robt. Fitzsimmons Co., after a successful engagement.

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THE SIDMANS return to the Union Square, this June 15.

THE LEWIS, Al, and Mamie, have just returned from the Pacific coast. They report being very successful over the Orpheum circuit. Last week they filled an engagement at Grenier's Lyceum Theatre, Chicago, Ill.

THE BROS. HORN, in their novelty sketch, "London Life," and Herr Grals and his baboon and donkey, have been engaged by F. E. Proctor for the vaudeville company which he sends out next season with George Lockhart's original comedy elephants, playing such shows as the Boston Theatre, the Chestnut Street Opera House, Philadelphia, Pa., and the Winter Garden, Chicago, Ill.

MARY GALLAGHER of Gaingher and Carroll, was a popular vaudevillian, and informs us that they have an offer to join Rice's Minstrels in St. Louis, Mo., for the Summer.

ROSE FIGAN, the well known opera singer, will soon make her debut in vaudeville at Keith's Union Square Theatre.

TOM BROWNE, the American double noted whistler, sails May 6 for Europe, where he will spend the Summer, opening in one of the prominent London houses. Mr. Brown's renditions are well known for the ease with which he trills out runs and difficult passages unostentatiously and euphoniously.

While abroad he will fill a number of drawing room engagements.

HARRY NETTER expects to take out a minstrel company next season.

THE ALABAMA MINSTRELS include Frank Anthony, Tom Jefferson, Prof. Friar, Bennie Perno and Bert LaShae.

SAM J. MYLIE will again join his wife, Ruby Mylie, in a sketch.

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THE GILDED WORLD, T. J. Grimes' spectacular novelty, is booked solid for the season, Mr. Grimes informs us, and work on the scenery and printing is now in full swing.

The season opens at the Unique Theatre, Brooklyn, Aug. 31. The route was booked by Mr. Minehan.

CHARLES H. HOPPER was born on Feb. 4, 1863, and his theatrical career began in his eighteenth year. A year or so previously he had entered Yale College, but scholastic learning was not to his liking, and he left the university determined to follow his inclination for the profession of an actor. His first engagement was in James O'Neill's company, whom he supported in "An American King" and "A Celebrated Case." He continued in the drama until his twenty-sixth year, when he decided to join the ranks of comic opera performers. During his experience in the legitimate he retained his fondness for music and cultivated his voice. His engagement with the Marie Tempest Opera Company, in "The Fencing Master," in the original production at the Casino, brought him into prominence and favorable notice. He created the part of the Duke of Milan. He afterwards played George Lagarde in "The Tulsman." His last appearance in comic opera was in Sydney Rosenthal's "The Rainmaker of Syria." The following season he appeared in the musical comedy, "Africa," in which he won distinction. The following season he carried out a long cherished purpose of starring, having secured a vehicle for his talents in the Irish play, "The Vale of Avoca." He continued in this until the production of "Chimble Fadden." The first production of the now celebrated play which has the bright and brave "Brody Roy" made his debut in the legitimate. In 1886 he was engaged in "The Merchant of Venice," in which he was not surprising that the popular actor now regards it as the most desirable Christmas present he ever received. During his stage career of sixteen years there was a lapse of two years, when Mr. Hopper felt encouraged to go into the horse business. He became a half owner in the celebrated trotting sire, Bell Boy, an Electoneer, out of Beautiful Bells. If Bell Boy had lived Mr. Hopper would probably never have returned to the stage, but the horse was burned to death at Versailles, Ky., in 1890. It cost the young actor and his partner, J. H. Clarke, a small fortune, for they had paid \$5,000 for the horse at an auction sale.

Variety and Minstrelsy

— Notes from the Sawtelle's Dramatic Co.: We closed a successful season on May 9, at Westerly, R. I. The company separated for the Summer, many going to their homes and several to the sea shore, where they will spend their vacation. Manager Sawtelle and wife will spend a few weeks at their home in Rochester, N. Y., and then return to part for Bar Harbor, Me. Mr. and Mrs. Sawtelle are enthusiastic bicyclists. This company has had two years ago, were entire strangers to this part of the country, and since their advent have played in many of the cities to record breaking business. No dates have been made in the past two seasons west of the Hudson River, and they are now booked solidly for the ensuing season in the principal cities of the New England States and provinces of Canada. New plays will be staged, and the newest and best music will be used. The Fall and Winter season of 1896-7 opens Aug. 24.

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— Notes from Sharpe's Lyceum Theatre Co.: Our business in Kansas has been good. At Junction City, we have our business well, and have been doing well in their houses for the last five years. Return dates are being booked through this state for next season. Next season Manager Sharpey contemplates taking out two repertory companies, and has his time nearly all booked. Excepting three changes this company has remained the same as at the opening of the season. We close May 16, at Burlington, Kan.

— We are informed that Emma Rogers, non professional, obtained a divorce from Robert Rogers, professional, in the Circuit Court of Fountain County, Ind., April 12.

— Charles Frohman and Al Hayman have brought suit against T. Henry French to recover \$9,523.75 as his share of the losses incurred by the production of "His Excellency" in this city.

— George Cayvan sailed for Europe May 6.

— Jean De Pin Cambini has brought suit against Rose & Co., photographers, and the Merchant Publishing Co., of Denver, Col., for having caused her photograph to become public property in furnishing them to Carter Rice & Co., cigarette manufacturers. The two men, who attempted to use them with packages of cigarettes.

— Stephen C. King has made a contract with Bela Fox to direct her tour next season, in "Fleur de Lys" and "The Little Trouper."

— The funeral of Mrs. Kate Stokes Stetson occurred May 6, in this city, the services being held at the Little Church Around the Corner, by the Rev. Dr. Houghton. Mrs. Emma Stokes, mother of Mrs. Stetson and Mrs. Emma Stetson, died May 11, in Boston, Mass., where she was a clergyman named Ransome in Providence, or any where else in Rhode Island, during those years.

— George E. Lothrop will send T. C. Howard to Europe in July on a business trip.

— The two younger sisters of Ruby and Ollie Lewis, have closed with the Nickerson Comedy Co., and have been engaged by Manager Merton for a Summer engagement of twelve weeks through the leading Summer resorts of Klaw & Erlanger's "Brownies" closed their second season at Hartford, Conn., May 9. Next season's tour begins in Canada.

— Fred Perkins has been engaged by Klaw & Erlanger as musical director of the "Lady Slavey" Co., when it goes on next season.

— The two girls who were in a Bar Room" Co., with the White Hussar Band and Orchestra, will open the season Aug. 22 at Erie. The special feature will be the comic solo by Prof. John F. Knoll, concert virtuoso, who will also have full charge of the musical programme.

— Betts Losse Notes: Frank N. Lawrence, Harry Lenox and Bessie Beardsley joined the company in Exeter, N. H., 7. Manager Harry Shannon has the Summer season booked solid, and his company supporting Herbert K. Betts and Adele Losse now number thirteen people.

— A musical comedy, "A Red Stocking," by George H. Roy, will go on the road in November. It will introduce Alice Hanson as the soubrette star, supported by Bryant and Richmond, Dan Waldron and others.

— Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Bower closed with the "Uncle Josh Sprucey" Co., April 23, and will spend the Summer in Kansas City with Mr. Bower's parents.

— The will of the late John Stetson was offered for probate May 7, in Boston, Mass. The will is dated April 16, two days before Mr. Stetson's death, and gives all of his property, whether real, personal or mixed, to his widow, Anna Stetson, and his son, Charles H. Stetson, manager of the Stetson's department store, Mrs. Emma Stokes, mother of Mrs. Stetson, who died May 4, has filed a petition in the Probate Court of Boston asking to be appointed administratrix of the estate in behalf of her daughter's heirs.

— Notes from the Standard: The "Uncle Josh Sprucey" Co. will have its first performance at the Standard on May 13.

— The "Red Stocking" will open at the Standard on May 20.

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Miscellaneous

NOTES FROM COL. DANIEL BOONE'S SHOW.—We opened in the LA Fourche district two weeks ago, and have done a nice business. Everybody is well. The company is as follows: Boon & Ottendorfer, proprietors; Jerry Callahan, manager; Fred O. Jones, amusement director; Boon Allen, treasurer; Prof. Harry James, band master, with ten people; De Ivey, Frisco and De Ivey, Tom Tandy, Harry, Charlie, and Eddie; John and Eddie, uncle John Kimball, Fred and Kite, Owens, Annie, James, James, Edna Phenton, G. C. Craft, Prof. De Long, Mac Carter Franklin and Walter Ottendorfer, Augustus and Katie Ottendorfer, and Irene James. We will play the Bayou terroirs until the racing season opens, then we will play all the race country.

PROF. JULES VERNON AND WIFE, wonder workers, have closed with the Davenport Co. after a season of forty weeks. They will go to the New Orleans, and then to the Eden Musee, St. Joseph, Mo. May 18, after that go to St. Louis, Mo., to join the Blankner Comedy Co. for the Summer season.

HILLIER & BURKE'S MUSICAL COMEDY will open this season at Galveston, Tex., May 12. The season is reported to have been financially successful, and the show will take the road again about Oct. 1. Clark Hillier and wife will summer at Bath Beach, L. I. Berol and Belmonte will be in New York for a three months' pleasure trip through Europe.

GTS. (PUNCH) WURZELL, the Punch and Judy performer, who had been at the Ninth and Arch Streets Museum, Philadelphia, during the winter season, closed there May 2, and left for Pittsburgh, Pa.

JOHN NEHMAN, trap drummer, has joined G. W. Bellford's Company of Novelists for the Summer.

CHARLES WOLCOTT, an American aeronaut, who fell from his balloon, recently performing in Caracas, Venezuela, arrives in this city May 8. His spine is injured, and he comes here for medical treatment.

CHARLES K. HARRIS, of the Harris Company, writes as follows: I am in no better company than with Charles K. Harris, the song writer. I am now touring with a company, including Charles K. Harris and Harry W. Ayer, manager; Eva, George, and Sam, band; B. D. Smith, master of ceremonies; Frank B. Beck, manager; Harry Hayes, leader of orchestra; Jessie Harcourt, Ronnie Hazel, Gussie Hart, May Hebron, Mrs. Harry W. Ayer, J. S. Jones, Charles Harris, Arthur Beck, W. H. Clark, Craig Roy, Eugene Hart, W. G. Gandy, Arthur Clark, Mayo, A. E. Adams, W. H. Muller, John Doyle, W. H. Cunningham, Charles Berger, Clarence Blodgett, Charles L. Tipton and Max Mezzeney. We go under canvas in time for the Summer.

ROSTER OF KEITH'S MAMMOTH PAVILION "U. T. C." Co.—Dr. K. Keith, proprietor; Frank Roberts, manager; F. L. Taylor, advance representative, with two assistants; and Pauline, manager; Frank, manager; Performers: Fred Wires, R. S. Ewen, S. H. Kellogg, James Hagan, Frank Seavey, Arthur Lambert, Clara Miller Phillips, Mrs. Eunice Smith, Little Fay Smith, Lila Smith, Craig Roy, Eugene Hart, W. G. Gandy, Arthur Clark, Mayo, A. E. Adams, W. H. Muller, John Doyle, W. H. Cunningham, Charles Berger, Clarence Blodgett, Charles L. Tipton and Max Mezzeney. We go under canvas in time for the Summer.

NOTES FROM UNDERWOOD'S COMEDY CO.—Everything is in readiness for our opening May 12. The first three weeks we take up the same route we played last season.

NORRIS BROS.' EQUINE AND CANINE CARNIVAL, consisting of one hundred and educated ponies and dogs, opened at the Auditorium, Allegany, Pa., April 20, where we remained the entire week, playing to a large audience. The week following was put in at Pittsburgh (East End). People were turned away at two performances during the week, and a 600-seat top, with two additional pieces, and a 500, dressing top, and the house tent. The show is transported on two cars. The roster is about the same as last season: Norris Bros., proprietors; H. S. Rose, manager; C. E. Culver, J. M. Bred and S. A. Jenkins, in addition to the company, including the Dorian Sisters, Impresario act; Peter Orton, on high revolving trapeze; Kittele, contortionist and hand balancer; Chas. Gregory, high balancing perch; Madam Zazzelle, in feathered cage; and hand balancing; the Dorian Sisters, Impresario act; Peter Orton, on high revolving trapeze; Kittele, contortionist and hand balancer; Chas. Gregory and troupe of educated horses; Myron Orton, menage act and slack wire; Vado, aerial hoop; two pony act, Gordon Orton; the American Jap, in barrel kicking, table and cross; Berkell's Family, in three number, general performers; triple trapeze, Orton Children; clowns, Paloro and Hutchinson. The band consists of four tenors, under the leadership of Prof. Fred Weston.

COL. JESSE FOSTER has received a cable announcing the arrival of Frank A. Gardner and his company in Venezuela, with all in good health. The colonel is now negotiating with a number of performers, including a Royal Yeddo Japanese troupe direct from Japan.

NOTES FROM DIAMOND JACK'S BIG CO.—We open May 18 in Chester, Pa. Our quarters in Philadelphia look like a city. We open in an 800-top with two large middle pieces, in charge of Harry Lee, and we have lost with the late Adam Peraugh. Dr. W. H. Long, known as Diamond Jack, owner and manager; Mrs. W. H. Long, treasurer; John Ferty, secretary; Billy Angerott, stage manager; and Frank, manager; Frank, manager; Weston, charge of ponies. We carry sixty-five people on our pay roll. The company will close its Winter sea son in Forest City, Pa., May 18. Dr. C. B. Orson will act as manager. We will be in the Auditorium, Allegany, Pa., next week closed a deal with Wm. Martin & Bro., real estate brokers, of Philadelphia, where he bought the property No. 238 South Tenth Street, which adjoins his residence, which will turn into a fine residence. Mr. Eliel Alton Long was presented recently with a pair of tickets to the show. Boss Cannon Man Emerson, and his merry crew get show on and off the lot in regulation, one day stand order and have plenty of time to read THE CLIPPER during the rest of the week. T. B. Wilson, of Kansas City, has the privilege.

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GEO. W. KEIL, MANAGER.

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J. H. M., Pittsburgh.—Twenty-five dollars per week.

M. S. S., St. Louis.—The letter has not yet been claimed.

CARDS.

E. R., Chicago.—At poker a flush with ace at the head beats one with the ten spot at the head.

A. F. S., New York.—Any player, when it is his turn, and after taking the ante good, may raise the ante any number of times, but the player of the hand after the jack pot is not called, he is not required to show more than openers.

H. C., Chicago.—In two handed pinochle, the talon may have been distributed, but if possible, if otherwise, a trump must be played. If neither is possible, then any card may be played. The second player to a trick must take the trick if he can.

CONSTANT READER, New York.—You cannot throw under such circumstances, but must take with the ace.

R. E. H., New York.—A straight flush consisting of six, five, four, three, two, one, not least another made up of four, four, three, deuce and ace, the latter being the lowest straight flush.

S., Covington.—In the game of pinochle the nine of trump is known as "deuce," and when the dealer turns up a nine for trump he scores ten points thereafter on one.

T. H. V., Brooklyn.—In draw poker a hand made up of jack, nine, five, four and seven spot is better than one composed of nine, four, three, two and ace.

D. C., Cleveland.—The party is unknown to us, and the best hand in the show down wins, no matter what a player may call his hand.

J. M. Richmond.—The term "hand" as applied to a hand composed of the cards of the hand, as in the sequence, is synonymous with "straight" being only used to distinguish the hand from an ordinary flush. Common sense furnishes the reason for this ruling.

D. C., Cleveland.—In draw poker a straight beats triplets (three of a kind), when straight is played, as they generally are nowadays. A win.

F. D., Cincinnati.—The lack, ten, nine, eight and seven spot of any suit constitute what some poker players are pleased to term a "royal flush."

BASEBALL, CRICKET, ETC.

R. N. Brown.—The Cleveland and Baltimore teams contended for the Temple Cup last October. The former winning four of the five games then played, by the respective scores of 5 to 4, 7 to 2, 7 to 1 and 5 to 2. The Baltimore team won the fourth game played, by 5 to 0.

J. L. C., New York.—Only one was out, that being the batsman who failed to take his position at the bat in the order of batting.

W. H. B., Philadelphia.—A batsman cannot return from his ticket and return to it to complete his inning, after another has been in, without the consent of the opposing team.

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J. G. Roselli.—There is not much demand for such an act. 2. Only an exhibition. 3. It would be otherwise. 4. None is necessary. 5. About twenty minutes. 6. Probably forty dollars per week.

R. T. M. St. Paul.—Your act is not a novelty, and if you can do all that you claim you should have but little trouble in securing engagements at forty dollars per week.

H. A. Newmark.—The salary of an advance agent varies from thirty dollars per week upward. Unless you have had experience you stand but little chance of obtaining a position.

W. S. H. Cincinnati.—Whereabouts unknown. Address letter in our care.

A. E. Reed.—The parties are unknown to us. Address letter in our care and we will advise it.

STUDENT, Sandusky.—We never advise anyone to go upon the stage, and in our case we advise you to persevere in this profession you have already adopted.

L. C. Washington.—We add your address Bram Stoker, manager for Her Majesty's, will be at Abbey's Theatre, this city, until the close of this week.

H. A. S., Norristown.—We never furnish private address of professionals. Address the party in care of THE CLIPPER.

S. M., Grand Rapids.—During the regular dramatic season performances in Hebrew are given in three theatres in this city. 2. Grand opera was presented at the Metropolitan Opera House, this city, in French, German and Italian.

E. C. M.—The party concerning whom you inquire is of the variety team of Mays and Hunter. You can address him in our care.

J. D. Cleveland.—The party is unknown to us, but we will advertise a letter addressed in our care.

E. S.—Address a letter to the party in care of THE CLIPPER.

J. G. Roselli.—There is not much demand for such an act. 2. Only an exhibition. 3. It would be otherwise. 4. None is necessary. 5. About twenty minutes. 6. Probably

Wefers Equals a World's Record.

The joint sports of the students of Georgetown and Columbian Universities, held on Georgetown Field, D. C., on Saturday afternoon, May 9, attracted a very large assemblage of admirers of athletic pastimes, and they were furnished a treat, for, aside from the interesting and exciting character of the contests in general, they saw the champion sprinter, B. J. Wefers, win the opening event, at one hundred yards, in record time, 9 1/8. Summary:

One hundred yards run.—Won by B. J. Wefers, Georgetown, third. Time, 9 1/8. Second, W. E. T. Fox, Georgetown, third. Time, 9 1/8. Third, J. W. McLaughlin, Georgetown, second.

Eight hundred and twenty yards run.—Won by J. M. Gallagher, Georgetown, W. H. Hall, Georgetown, second; J. Bowlin, Georgetown, third. Time, 2m. 75s.

One hundred and twenty yards run.—Won by A. McElhone, Georgetown, 50 ft. 3in. D. Dillon, Georgetown, 50 ft. 2in. Second, W. Scott, Columbia, third.

One hundred and twenty yards hurdle race.—Won by F. P. McElroy, Georgetown, third. J. J. Keane, Georgetown, second; E. Cockrell, Columbian, third.

Running broad jump.—Won by B. J. Wefers, Georgetown, 20ft. 6in. J. Dillon, Georgetown, 20ft. 3in. Second, F. P. McElroy, Columbian, third.

One hundred and twenty yards run.—Won by B. J. Wefers, Georgetown; J. S. Walsh, Georgetown, second; W. E. Fox, Georgetown, third. Upon measuring the distance it was found to be 10ft. short.

One mile run.—Won by A. McElhone, Georgetown, 100 ft. F. Eminson, Columbian, second, 99 ft. 9in.; J. Dillon, third.

One mile walk.—Won by P. McLaughlin, Georgetown; J. S. Walsh, Georgetown, second; W. E. Fox, Georgetown, third. Time, 19m. 10s.

Throwing the 16lb. hammer.—Won by George McRea, Georgetown, 100ft. 11in. E. Cockrell, Columbian, second.

Putting the 16lb. shot.—Won by G. Sheas, Georgetown, 30ft. 7in. Second, J. M. Gallagher, Georgetown, 30ft. 5in.

One hundred and twenty yards hurdle race.—Won by J. M. Gallagher, Georgetown; J. S. Walsh, Georgetown, second; A. J. Devereux, third. Time, 21s.

One mile walk.—Won by F. A. Scott, Columbian, F. H. Bangier, Georgetown, second; H. T. Taggart, George town, third. Time, 2m. 45s.

Four hundred and forty yards run.—Won by B. J. Wefers, Georgetown, third. Time, 50 ft. 1in. Georgetown, second.

One mile run.—Won by J. Daly, Georgetown; A. J. Devereux, Georgetown, second; B. McElhone, Columbian, third. Time, 1m. 38s.

Three hundred and twenty yards run.—Won by F. A. Schuda, Columbian; J. E. Hunger, Georgetown, second; F. Moore, Columbian, third. Time, 3m. 34s.

Pennsylvania Defeats Cornell.

There was a large crowd at Percy Field, Ithaca, N. Y., on the afternoon of May 9, to witness the annual dual games between the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University, which resulted in a victory for the visitors by a score of 73 to 53. Summary:

One hundred yards run.—Won by J. R. Bowen, Cornell, H. L. Daniels, Cornell, second; C. T. Buckholz, Pennsylvania, third. Time, 10s.

One hundred and twenty yards hurdle race.—Won by G. S. McElroy, Cornell, second; W. H. Hall, Cornell, third. Time, 23s.

Four hundred and forty yards run.—Won by H. L. Taylor, Cornell; B. Warren, Pennsylvania, second; C. C. Stieglitz, Pennsylvania, third. Time, 50s.

One mile walk.—Won by G. W. Orton, Pennsylvania; C. E. Meshling, Pennsylvania, second; J. J. Ovorn, Pennsylvanian, third. Time, 49s.

Two hundred and twenty yards run.—Won by H. G. Daniels, Cornell; J. R. Bowen, Cornell, second; S. C. Boyer, Pennsylvania, third. Time, 22s.

Two hundred and twenty yards hurdle race.—Won by P. M. Walters, Cornell; N. P. Stauffer, Pennsylvania, second; S. C. Boyer, Pennsylvania, third. Time, 34s.

One mile run.—Won by G. W. Orton, Pennsylvania; C. E. Meshling, Pennsylvania, second; J. J. Ovorn, Pennsylvanian, third. Time, 3m. 54s.

Running high jump.—Won by J. D. Winsor, Pennsylvania, 6ft. 1in.; T. C. Powell, Cornell, second, 6ft. 7in.; G. P. Becker, Cornell, third. Time, 20s.

One mile walk.—Won by W. B. Fetterman, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Cornell, second; E. C. Zeller, Cornell, third. Time, 20s.

One mile walk.—Won by H. G. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Cornell, third. 60ft. 9in.

Pole vault.—Won by C. T. Buckholz, Pennsylvania, 10ft.; W. Scott, Pennsylvania, second; F. T. Hall, Cornell, third.

Quaker City Academic Sports.

In the neighborhood of two thousand spectators witnessed the running off of the programme for the third annual Spring games of the scholars of the Roman Catholic High School, which took place at Franklin Field, Philadelphia, Pa., on Friday afternoon, May 8. The games were very successful athletically also, several former school records being improved upon. Summary:

One hundred yards run.—Won by A. Corser, Pennsylvania, 99 ft. 6in.; W. C. Hickey, Franklin, second; F. W. Scott, Franklin, third. Time, 10s.

One mile walk.—Won by G. W. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Franklin, second; F. W. Scott, Franklin, third. Time, 25s.

Two hundred and twenty yards run.—Won by P. M. Walters, Franklin; N. P. Stauffer, Pennsylvania, second; S. C. Boyer, Franklin, third. Time, 34s.

One mile walk.—Won by G. W. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Franklin, second; F. W. Scott, Franklin, third. Time, 34s.

Four hundred and forty yards race.—Won by G. W. Scott, Franklin; W. C. Hickey, Franklin, second; F. W. Scott, Franklin, third. Time, 20s.

One mile walk.—Won by G. W. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Franklin, second; F. W. Scott, Franklin, third. Time, 20s.

Running high jump.—Won by A. Corser, Franklin; F. W. Scott, Franklin, second. Time, 5ft. 6in.

Throwing the hammer.—Won by G. W. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Franklin, second. Time, 5ft. 6in.

Pole vault.—Won by C. T. Buckholz, Pennsylvania, 10ft.; W. Scott, Pennsylvania, second; F. T. Hall, Cornell, third.

California Collegians in Competition.

The annual inter-University dual games between the athletes of the University of California and Stanford University came off on Saturday afternoon, April 25, at San Francisco, with the result shown, each side scoring fifty-six points. The weather was against good performances, being cold, with a stiff wind. Summary:

One hundred yards run.—Won by B. H. Stanford, Barnard, Stanford University, first. 109s.; Bruntom, S. U., second.

One hundred and twenty yards run.—Won by G. C. Dierdorff, Stanford, first. 109s.; Bruntom, S. U., second.

Four hundred and forty yards run.—Won by H. L. Taylor, Cornell; B. Warren, Pennsylvania, second; C. C. Stieglitz, Pennsylvania, third. Time, 54s.

One mile walk.—Won by G. W. Orton, Pennsylvania; C. E. Meshling, Pennsylvania, second; J. J. Ovorn, Pennsylvania, third. Time, 49s.

Running high jump.—Won by J. D. Winsor, Pennsylvania, 6ft. 1in.; T. C. Powell, Cornell, second, 6ft. 7in.; G. P. Becker, Cornell, third. Time, 20s.

One mile walk.—Won by W. B. Fetterman, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Cornell, second; E. C. Zeller, Cornell, third. Time, 20s.

One mile walk.—Won by H. G. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Cornell, second; E. C. Zeller, Cornell, third. Time, 20s.

One mile walk.—Won by G. W. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Cornell, second; E. C. Zeller, Cornell, third. Time, 20s.

One mile walk.—Won by G. W. Woodruff, Pennsylvania; E. M. Bull, Cornell, second; E. C. Zeller, Cornell, third. Time, 20s.

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Fifteenth Annual Meeting.

NEW YORK, May 1, 1896.

The Annual Meeting of the Actors' Fund of the United
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the election for President, Vice Presidents, Secretary,
Treasurer, etc., will take place, and also the
members of the past year's work submitted, etc.

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DANIEL FROHMAN, Secretary.

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